

# NewsCOR

## Raleigh's Weekly Newsgram



### CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON CONVENTION CENTER'S ROOFTOP SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM Will Be the Largest Solar Energy Array in Downtown Raleigh

The City of Raleigh announced Thursday that construction has commenced on a 500-kilowatt solar energy system at the Raleigh Convention Center. The rooftop system will be the City's largest urban solar energy system.

When completed in April, 2080 photovoltaic panels covering approximately 60 percent of the convention center's roof will produce an estimated 725,000 kilowatt hours of electricity. That will reduce carbon dioxide emissions by about 500 tons annually. This is equivalent to the carbon dioxide emissions from about 100 passenger vehicles.

"We are thrilled to move forward on this solar energy system," said Mayor Nancy McFarlane. "Making our fantastic Convention Center even more sustainable is a very significant achievement."

FLS Energy and PowerWorks will finance, engineer, build, own and operate the solar system. Progress Energy will buy the electricity generated by the array through its SunSense Commercial Solar PV program and use it to serve its customers. PowerWorks and FLS Energy are leasing the Convention Center rooftop space from the City to operate the solar array.

The Raleigh Convention Center's solar energy system joins the City of Raleigh's 10 other solar energy systems. The City's portfolio presently has the capacity of more than 2.15 megawatts.

Raleigh is committed to sustainability and becoming a 21st century city of innovation. Through Sustainable Raleigh and the City's Office of Sustainability, the City has created programs addressing many areas of environmental and social responsibility, including energy efficiency, reduction in fuel usage, introduction of electric vehicle infrastructure and training programs for businesses and individuals in the green building industry.



- Construction Begins On Convention Center's Rooftop Solar Energy System
- Raleigh Is Best For Women's Health; Third For Raising Families
- City Human Relations Commission To Honor Winners Of Human Relations Awards Feb. 9
- Interviews Start March 6 For The City of Raleigh's Summer Youth Employment Program
- For More Than A Quarter Century Artspace Inspired Creativity
- Jam-Packed February In Store For The Raleigh Convention Center
- Campo Seeking Public Comment And Will Hold Public Hearing Feb. 15
- Chavis Community Center To Be Home To College Information Center
- City of Raleigh's Office Of Sustainability Offering Free Solar Thermal Course
- Council Sets Public Hearing For Public Review Of UDO For Feb. 21
- City To Host Public Meetings On Blue Ridge Road District Study
- Supportive Housing Registration Program Effective Feb. 29
- Follow The City of Raleigh On Twitter & Facebook
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The Raleigh Convention Center achieved a silver certification in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system by the U.S. Green Building Council. It is one of only seven convention centers in the country to have achieved any level of certification in the LEED rating system. The City of Raleigh was named the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's 2011 Siemens Sustainable Community Award for mid-size communities. It also was listed among the top 25 "most electric vehicle-ready" cities in the U.S. The city was recently recognized internationally as a Smart Grid hub. In 2009, Raleigh was selected to be one of three American cities for Project Get Ready, a program that is preparing cities for the introduction of electric vehicles.

### **RALEIGH IS BEST FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH; THIRD FOR RAISING FAMILIES**

A new year is bringing more accolades for the Capital City, this time for women's health and raising families.

The analysis of data from the Centers for Disease Control, the U.S. Census Bureau and the American Cancer Society found Raleigh at the top of the rankings of the healthiest cities in the nation for women, according to Women's Health magazine.

Overall it measured 30 categories for the 100 largest cities in America, according to the magazine's editor Sascha de Gersdorff.

24/7 Wall St. placed Raleigh third among its "10 Best Cities for Raising a Family." Among the Capital City's assets that were identified in this ranking were its strong economy, growing high-tech and biotech industries, good schools and highly educated adult population. The magazine also acclaimed Raleigh for offering its youth great opportunities to enjoy healthy exercise, especially basketball. "The city has one of the highest rates of basketball hoops per resident in the country."

### **CITY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION TO HONOR WINNERS OF HUMAN RELATIONS AWARDS FEB. 9**

The City of Raleigh Human Relations Commission will announce the winners of its Human Relations Awards during its 23rd annual banquet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, at the McKimmon Center.

The Human Relations Commission will honor a high school student, an adult, a business and a nonprofit organization for their contributions to positive human relations in Raleigh. Dr. Gail Hayes, an empowerment speaker, will deliver the keynote address.

Admission to the banquet is \$35 per person, and reservations are required by Monday, Feb. 6. To reserve a seat, contact Marionna Poke-Stewart, supervisor of the Volunteer and Human Services Division in the Community Services Department, at 996-6100 or [marionna.poke-stewart@raleighnc.gov](mailto:marionna.poke-stewart@raleighnc.gov)

Members of the Human Relations Commission are volunteers who are appointed by the Raleigh City Council. The Human Relations Commission promotes activities, education and programs that enhance human dignity, equal opportunity, mutual respect and harmony among Raleigh citizens. The City of Raleigh Community Services Department helps to coordinate the work of the commission.

### **INTERVIEWS START MARCH 6 FOR THE CITY OF RALEIGH'S SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM**

Teens interested in summer jobs with the City of Raleigh may take part in interviews and submit applications at locations around the Capital City March 6 to March 28.

The Raleigh Summer Youth Employment Program is open to teens 15 years old to 18 years old. Teens selected will work 20 to 30 hours a week as office staff, light laborers, staff assistants, and recreation counselors. The program runs from June 11 to August 10, and the pay is \$7.25 an hour.

In addition to work experience, the Summer Youth Employment Program provides life skills training and mentoring by local lawyers and law enforcement officers. Teens in the program attend workshops on topics such as employment readiness, communication, budgeting, decision-making and conflict resolution.

To be eligible, a teen must live in the City of Raleigh and be at least 15 years and no older than 18 years old as of May 31. To apply, a teen must come to one of the locations listed below on the designated date to complete an application and take part in an interview.

At the interview sites, applicants will be required to provide the names and contact information for three references. To prove age and residency, they also must submit a clear photocopy of a North Carolina driver's license, learner's permit or state-issued identification card. Copiers will not be available at the interview sites. School identification cards, temporary driving certificates and receipts for state identification cards will not be accepted.



All interview and application sessions will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the following locations on the specified dates:

**Tuesday, March 6**

Millbrook Exchange Park  
1905 Spring Forest Road

**Thursday, March 8**

Biltmore Hills Community Center  
2615 Fitzgerald Drive

**Monday, March 12**

Greystone Recreation Center  
7713-55 Leadmine Road

**Wednesday, March 14**

Marsh Creek Community Center  
3050 New Hope Road

**Friday, March 16**

Roberts Park Community Center  
1300 East Martin St.

**Tuesday, March 20**

Chavis Community Center  
505 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

**Thursday, March 22**

Tarboro Road Community Center  
121 Tarboro Road

**Friday, March 23**

Worthdale Community Center  
1001 Cooper Road

**Monday, March 26**

Lions Park Community Center  
516 Dennis Ave

**Wednesday, March 28**

Method Pioneer Building  
514 Method Road

The City of Raleigh Community Services Department administers the Raleigh Summer Youth Program. For more information, contact Youth Services Coordinator Cathey Ector at 996-6100 or email [Cathey.ector@raleighnc.gov](mailto:Cathey.ector@raleighnc.gov). Information also is available at [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov). and search for Summer Youth Employment in the search box at the top right of the home page.

## FOR MORE THAN A QUARTER CENTURY ARTSPACE INSPIRED CREATIVITY

The Capital City is blessed in having many outstanding arts organizations that help make Raleigh a delightful place to live. Artspace, a visual arts center located at 201 East Davie St.



in Downtown Raleigh, is dedicated to providing inspiring and engaging arts education and community outreach programs. It is a thriving visual art organization with a uniqueness that lies in its emphasis on the art of creation.

Artspace has a national reputation for breaking down barriers to visual art by providing artists with a place and time to work and to exhibit their work, the opportunity to engage with other artists, and professional development opportunities. Artspace serves the public by bringing free or low-cost art programming to children and adults where they live and play, introducing them to diverse artistic styles; and by further educating them regarding the creative process. Artspace is also a wheelchair accessible facility.

### History

Artspace had its genesis in 1980 when a group of community leaders with the vision of opening an art center and cultural corridor in Downtown Raleigh approached the Raleigh City Council. Council directed the City of Raleigh Arts Commission to establish a task force to explore the need for and interest in a Downtown multipurpose art facility. The task force made two recommendations:

- 1) That the empty Sanders Ford dealership building was the best location for the new art center; and,
- 2) The art center should incorporate as a nonprofit organization.

Artspace, one of the pioneering organizations in the revitalization of Downtown Raleigh, has occupied the Sanders Ford building since 1986. The building served as a livery stable prior to becoming a car dealership. More than two million visitors have visited the facility since its opening.

The 30,000-square foot facility is home to more than 30 artists working in a variety of media; three exhibition spaces, an education space, a gift shop, and administrative offices. Artspace is one of the largest open studio environments in the country and is the premier organization of its kind in North Carolina.

The City of Raleigh provided \$141,000 in support to Artspace for the 2010 – 2011 fiscal year through the City of Raleigh Arts Grant Program administered by the City of Raleigh Arts Commission.



## Education

Education is at the heart of Artspace's mission. Current offerings for educators include field trips, student scholarships, and professional development opportunities such as workshops, tours, and an annual juried educators' exhibition. Artspace offers renewal credits and discounted rates for educators.

Artspace hosts numerous school groups, summer camps, art clubs, and other youth organizations for informal and formal guided tours of the building and artist studios. Participants learn the history of Artspace and are encouraged to expand their understanding of the creative process by interacting with the studio artists.

The Artspace Summer Arts Program provides youth classes for rising third through tenth graders to work closely with and learn from a professional artist. Classes for youth are weeklong, half-day courses to allow students to complete one large individual art project and several smaller ones. The program includes 48 youth classes, serving more than 600 youths, including up to 50 need-based, full-scholarship students. The 2012 Summer Arts Program starts June 10 and runs through August 11.

The Process and Product workshop takes up to 30 fifth-graders on a one-hour guided tour of the facility and participation in a one-hour interactive art class where participants will produce a batik using hot melted wax and special dyes. Batik is an exciting technique for creating designs on fabric. Dates are still available.

The Artspace Outreach Program gives participants a voice through their artwork – providing them with the language of art through which they can express their thoughts and ideas, and share them with the community. This spring fourth-graders at Hope Elementary School will participate in the program, which will integrate visual arts, language arts and social studies curricula.

## Events and Exhibitions

More than 100,000 visitors enjoy the 30-plus challenging and award-winning exhibitions presented by Artspace each year. Other annual services include interactive workshops attended by more than 2,000 school children, art programs for at-risk children, classes and workshops attended by more than 3,000 youth and adults annually, and approximately 100 public events open at no charge to the community.

## Upcoming Events

- First Fridays - Artspace is open to the public from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. on the first Friday of each month (except for holidays) for the First Friday Gallery Walk, which is free to the public;
- Soup Bowl Supper - Thursday, February 23, 2012, 5:30 pm and 7p.m. Students from the art departments of Southeast Raleigh, Sanderson and New Hope high schools will serve a dinner featuring student-made ceramic soup bowls. Proceeds benefit the Raleigh Rescue Mission, Artspace and the high schools;

- Spring Fundraiser (name TBD) - Proceeds benefit the Artspace Summer Arts Program Scholarship Fund, which funds scholarships for up to 50 Wake County art students to attend the Summer Arts Program. Scholarships are need-based and recipients are selected from nominations by area art teachers. The date has not been set;
- Summer Arts Program Youth Exhibition - August 14 to 18. Will conclude with a Family Fun Day on Saturday, August 18 from 12:30 to 3 p.m.; and,
- Collectors Gala - Saturday, November 17. The Collectors Gala is Artspace's primary annual fundraiser; supporting its open artist studios, acclaimed local and national exhibitions, and community outreach programs. Last year's event raised an unprecedented \$105,000 towards Artspace's mission.

## Upcoming Exhibitions

- Microcosms/Macrocosms - Amy Gross & Barry Sparkman, February 3 – March 21, Gallery 2
- New Works Exhibition - Artspace Artists Association, Juror: David J. Brown, March 10 – April 28, Gallery 1
- A Retrospective - Chris Hondros, April 6 – May 26, Gallery 2
- Momentos of a Doomed Construct - Stephanie Liner, May 4 – June 30, Gallery 1

For more information on Artspace, visit <http://artspacenc.org/> or call 919-821-2787.

## City of Raleigh Arts Grant Program

The Arts Grant Program provides financial support to local arts organizations that enrich and enliven the lives of Raleigh residents and visitors. The grant program provides support for a diverse range of opportunities including city arts festivals, live theatre, dance and music performances, visual arts exhibitions and youth arts programs.

The program has distributed more than \$20 million to qualifying organizations since its inception in 1989. A major example of the Raleigh City Council's dedication to cultural development, grants funding is supported by a \$4.50 per capita annual allocation. This support has contributed to the Capital City being widely recognized as one of the best places in the country in which to live.

For more information about the Raleigh Arts Commission, visit [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov) or call 919-996-3610.



## JAM-PACKED FEBRUARY IN STORE FOR THE RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER

The month of February will be wall-to-wall with major conventions and shows at the Raleigh Convention Center. After a slight lull during the holidays, February will see events expected to bring tens of thousands of people to Downtown Raleigh. The calendar includes:

- February 2 through February 5 – The Raleigh Convention Center Boat Show returns to the convention center. The annual boat show is expected to draw more than 10,000 people;
- February 6 and February 7 – The Institute for Emerging Issues will hold a forum discussing the impact of “Generation Z” on the economic and workforce development. The forum is expected to draw more than 1,200 people;
- February 9 through February 12 – The YMCA North Carolina Youth Leadership Conference will be held at the convention center. The conference is expected to draw more than 1,250 people;
- February 15 and February 16 – The 2012 Life Science Conference will be held in Downtown Raleigh. More than 600 people are expected to attend;
- February 16 through February 19 – The North Carolina Academy of Dentistry will hold its 2012 Annual Conference at the convention center. More than 300 people are expected to attend;
- February 18 – The Black Expo USA Tour 2012 will be held at the convention center. More than 3,000 people are expected to attend;
- February 24 through February 26 – The ACS Home Show will be held at the convention center. More than 15,000 people are expected to attend; and,
- February 29 through March 3 – The Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center. More than 1,000 people are expected to attend.

## CAMPO SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENT AND WILL HOLD PUBLIC HEARING FEB. 15

The North Carolina Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization is seeking public comments on the 2012-2013 Unified Planning Work Program and the self-certification checklist and responses associated with certification of the 3-C planning process.

The Unified Planning Work Program is a narrative description of the annual technical work program for a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process in the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization planning area. Also released for public review and comment is the self-certification. The comment period for these items began Jan. 20, and ends February 20. Copies are available at the Metropolitan Planning

Organization offices located at 127 West Hargett Street, Suite 800. Copies also are available on the organization’s website at [www.campo-nc.us](http://www.campo-nc.us).

The Transportation Advisory Committee of the Metropolitan Planning Organization will conduct a public hearing on the items on February 15, 4:00 p.m. at the Capital Area Transit Operations Facility, 4104 Poole Road. The Transportation Advisory Committee may take action on that date.

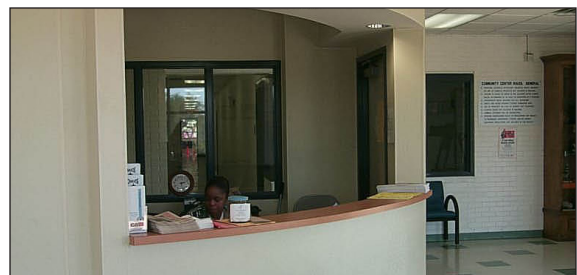
For more information or to make comments, contact the N.C. Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization office prior to February 20 at 996-4400 or visit [www.campo-nc.us](http://www.campo-nc.us). Written comments may be submitted to: Diane Wilson, deputy director, Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, 127 West Hargett Street, Suite 800 Raleigh, NC 27601. Comments may also be faxed to 996-7419, or e-mailed to [Diane.Wilson@campo-nc.us](mailto:Diane.Wilson@campo-nc.us)

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons requiring assistance to participate in the meetings or to request this document in an alternative format should contact the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization office at 919-996-4400 (voice), 919-807-8517 (fax), or the City of Raleigh Public Affairs Department at 919-996-3100 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

## CHAVIS COMMUNITY CENTER TO BE HOME TO COLLEGE INFORMATION CENTER

Young people and their families are now able to get easy-to-understand information about attending and paying for college when they drop by the Chavis Community Center, 505 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

Chavis Community Center, a City of Raleigh facility, was been selected to house the first Raleigh College Center, an information hub for people who want to learn about attending college. The Raleigh College Center is sponsored by the Raleigh Colleges and Community Collaborative. The collaborative recently won a \$1.3 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to help young people from families with low incomes complete their post-secondary education and get good jobs. The collaborative includes the six colleges and universities in Raleigh as well as the City of Raleigh, the Wake County Public School System, Wake County Human Services, businesses, faith-based organizations, nonprofits, teens and college students.



"Most jobs in the future will require employees who have college degrees or certificates," said Jose Picart, executive director of the Raleigh Colleges and Community Collaborative and special assistant to the provost for outreach and engagement at North Carolina State University. "A well-educated workforce will benefit our entire community, which is why so many organizations and individuals are supporting our effort to fully prepare our young people to go beyond high school."

College brochures and other information are available at the Raleigh College Center during regular operating hours of Chavis Community Center. Additionally, representatives of colleges and universities in Raleigh will conduct information sessions at the college center on two nights each month, providing an introduction to college and financial aid. The sessions will be free and open to all.

"Chavis Community Center is an important community gathering spot, and it is an ideal location for the Raleigh College Center," said Al Byrd, director of Chavis Community Center. "Many young people come to Chavis regularly, so having the first Raleigh College Center here will offer the perfect opportunity for them to learn about college."

Representatives of the Raleigh Colleges and Community Collaborative conducted four focus groups with teens to help determine the services to be offered at the Raleigh College Center. The teens said they wanted information about various types of colleges and universities, how to get loans and other financial support, advice from students already in college and access to computers, among other services.

The Raleigh Colleges and Community Collaborative plans to open additional college centers this year at other convenient locations in Raleigh, including a computer lab where students can receive assistance as they fill out applications for college admission and financial aid.

The Raleigh College Center is one aspect of the collaborative's larger initiative known as the Raleigh Promise.

The Raleigh Promise also includes:

- Raleigh Future Scholars, providing high school students with academic coaching, workplace internships, SAT preparation, financial literacy and help with the transition to college; and,
- Raleigh Fellows, supporting college students through orientation, mentoring, internships and job-search services.

## CITY OF RALEIGH'S OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY OFFERING FREE SOLAR THERMAL COURSE

As a continuation of the Green Building Training Series, the City of Raleigh's Office of Sustainability is offering a solar thermal training course through Wake Technical Community College Monday, Feb. 27 through Friday, March 2.

Accredited by the Interstate Renewable Energy Council, the solar thermal's curriculum is based on the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners solar thermal job task analysis. The course is taught by a certified North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners solar thermal installer and will provide hands-on training, exercises and labs. Students will gain a complete understanding of site evaluation tools, necessary measurements and calculations, and the specific system components essential to complete a fully functioning solar heating and cooling system installation.

To be eligible for the program a participant must provide proof that he or she works, lives or does business within the city of Raleigh. There is a \$25 refundable seat reservation fee for the course; registration is first-come, first-served from Jan. 23 through Feb. 20. The \$25 will be returned upon completion of the course.

The Green Building Training Program is funded by the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, commonly referred to as the stimulus package.

The City of Raleigh's Office of Sustainability offers assistance targeting the construction industry by offering training for the emerging Green Economy Workforce Development. For more information about the Green Building Training Program, contact the City's sustainability office at 996-3840.



## COUNCIL SETS PUBLIC HEARING FOR PUBLIC REVIEW OF UDO FOR FEB. 21

Raleigh residents will be able to offer public comments on the draft of the Unified Development Ordinance at a public hearing on Feb. 21. The ordinance will address contemporary development and zoning practices in a package that is easily understood by administrators, the public and the development community. Once approved by the Council, the Unified Draft Ordinance will implement goals, policies and actions in the City's 2030 Comprehensive Plan. For more information contact Christine Darges at 516-2634.



## CITY TO HOST PUBLIC MEETINGS ON BLUE RIDGE ROAD DISTRICT STUDY

The City of Raleigh will hold three public meetings on the Blue Ridge Road District Study. The meetings are being conducted to get public input on the project. A kickoff meeting on the study was held Jan. 12.

The purpose of the Blue Ridge Road District Study is to develop a plan to improve vehicle and pedestrian connectivity on Blue Ridge Road in west Raleigh. The study will also seek to leverage state and local policies and investments to support growth and to guide development in the corridor to conserve natural systems and landscapes. The study is expected to take nine to 12 months to complete.

The City of Raleigh has received a \$40,000 grant from the North Carolina Sustainable Communities Task Force to partially fund the study. Also, the N.C. Department of Transportation and some Blue Ridge Road core stakeholders are contributing \$50,000 and \$68,000 to the project, respectively.

All public meetings on the study will be held at the Governor James E. Holshouser Building at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds.

Two public design charrettes will be held:

- Monday, Feb. 6 with registration beginning at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The meeting will include a presentation and break-out group mapping exercises;
- Thursday, Feb. 9 with registration starting at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and include a presentation on design alternatives and a feedback session.

Those who are not able to attend either of the design charrettes are invited to drop by the project's design studio for an update on the study. The studio also is located in the Governor James E. Holshouser Building. It will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on both Feb. 7 and Feb. 8.

A third public meeting to review design options is scheduled for Thursday, March 8 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Registration will start at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will include a presentation on design options and a feedback session.

At the public meetings, the City of Raleigh will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for persons who have disabilities that want to participate. Anyone that requires special services should contact the City of Raleigh Public Affairs Department at 996-3100 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

For more information, visit the City of Raleigh's website at [www.raleighnc.gov/urbandesign](http://www.raleighnc.gov/urbandesign) and click on "Blue Ridge Road Corridor Study." Information also can be obtained from Trisha Hasch at the City's Urban Design Center at 807-8480 or [trisha.hasch@raleighnc.gov](mailto:trisha.hasch@raleighnc.gov).

## SUPPORTIVE HOUSING REGISTRATION PROGRAM EFFECTIVE FEB. 29

The City of Raleigh's supportive housing registration program goes into effect Feb. 29. The registration program will enable staff to establish a data base that can be cross-referenced with police reports and zoning violation data to determine if supportive housing generates identifiable problems requiring a regulatory change. The City Council directed staff to prepare a report in one year on issues identified by staff and recommendations for text changes to address the problems.

Council also directed staff to establish an annual registration fee of \$76.00.

Supportive housing includes emergency housing, transitional housing that provides structured programming for up to two years, and permanent supportive housing for persons with disabilities; including individuals with chronic mental illness, developmental disabilities, substance abuse, and HIV/AIDS.

## FOLLOW THE CITY OF RALEIGH ON TWITTER

Looking for the most up-to-date information from the City of Raleigh? Follow your local government via Twitter!

Twitter is a free service that allows you to "follow" people or subjects via short, frequent updates. The City of Raleigh now offers Twitter users the opportunity to stay informed about the latest news and breaking events. To join in, visit [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) and get started with a few simple steps. Once you have an active account, you can elect to "follow" any of the City's Twitter accounts.

Currently, the City maintains the following accounts:

**RaleighGov** - This feed features links to any news releases and alerts issued by the City of Raleigh;

**RaleighBPAC** - This feed features information from the City of Raleigh Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

**RaleighParks** - This feed features any news and information related to the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation Department;

**RalCommServices** - City of Raleigh Community Services Department

**RW911** - this feed features traffic accidents reported to the Emergency Communications Center.

**RaleighGoGreen** - this feed features news and information from the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department Recycling program

To follow any of these, simply choose "Find People" from your Twitter home page and type in the account name you are interested in and then click "follow." It's that easy.

## CITY OF RALEIGH ON FACEBOOK

**City of Raleigh** - The main City of Raleigh Facebook page keeps you informed about events, holidays and other news items.

**City of Raleigh Planning and Development** - The Raleigh Planning and Development page provides guidance for the growth, preservation and development of the City of Raleigh in order to maintain a community of lasting value.

**Community Services Department** - The Community Services Department Facebook page posts a variety of community and neighborhood news, stories, awards, classes and Citizen Advisory Council information.

**Emergency Communications** - The Raleigh-Wake County 911 Facebook page posts information on job openings, public engagements and other 911 related happenings.  
*Like Raleigh Wake County 911 on Facebook*

**Raleigh Police Department** - The Raleigh Police Department Facebook page focuses on public safety. Posts concerning crime alerts, missing people, requests for citizen assistance and more.

## TRAFFIC ALERTS

FOR MORE CITY OF RALEIGH NEWS AND UPDATES ON ROAD CLOSURES, PARADES AND ROAD RACES, VISIT THE CITY'S WEBSITE AT [WWW.RALEIGHNC.GOV](http://WWW.RALEIGHNC.GOV).

### ROAD RACES

**February 4** Traffic will be affected downtown for the annual Krispy Kreme Challenge.

**February 11** Traffic will be affected near Meridien Drive for a road race from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.



**February 12** Traffic will be affected downtown for a road race from 1 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

**March 3** Traffic will be affected from 8:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. near Fletcher Park for a road race.

### STREET CLOSINGS

**April 28** The service road parallel to Glenwood Avenue from Holly Ridge Road to Oak Park Road will be closed from 6 a.m. until 6 p.m.

### PARADES

**February 11** Traffic will be affected near E. South Street from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m. for a parade sponsored by the NAACP.

For information on downtown events visit the Downtown Raleigh Alliance website at [www.godowntownraleigh.com](http://www.godowntownraleigh.com) and the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau at [www.visitraleigh.com](http://www.visitraleigh.com).

NewsCOR is also available electronically. Please contact the City of Raleigh Public Affairs Department at 996-3100. If you would prefer to receive NewsCOR by email.